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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of : Takashi KIMURA, Masakazu YOSHIDA, Masanori HIRANO,
Toshihito KAMEI, Mikio OHASHI and Taeko TAKAHASHI

Serial No. : Not Yet Known Int'l Appl'n No.: PCT/JP2003/011917

Date Filed : Concurrently Herewith Int'l Filing Date: 18 September 2003

For : IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD, PRINTING DEVICE, INK-JET
PRINTING DEVICE, PRINTER DRIVER, IMAGE PROCESSING
DEVICE, AND IMAGE FORMING SYSTEM AND METHOD

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, N.Y. 10036
(212) 278-0400

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
ATTN: DO/EO/US

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to the applicant's duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner.

It is respectfully requested that the information cited in annexed Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, filed concurrently herewith, and that such art be made of record in said application.

The subject application is a U.S. national phase application under 35 U.S.C. 371 of International Application No. PCT/JP2003/011917. Some of the items listed on the annexed Form PTO-1449 were cited in the International Search Report and/or International Preliminary Examination Report in connection with International Application No. PCT/JP2003/011917. Copies of the International Search Report and/or International Preliminary Examination Report are submitted concurrently herewith.

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According to the August 5, 2003 OG Notice published by the Patent and Trademark Office, the Office has waived the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each cited U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and for all international application that have entered the national stage under 35 U.S.C. §371 after June 30, 2003.

Accordingly, copies are submitted herewith for only references listed on the annexed Form PTO-1449 that are not a U.S. patent or U.S. patent application publication.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that these items are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of the particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 17, 2005


Paul Teng, Reg. No. 40,837
Attorney for Applicants
Cooper & Dunham LLP
(212) 278-0400

| Form PTO-1449 | | U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office | | | | | | | Atty. Docket No. 2271/74077 | | Serial No. Not Yet Known 107528716 | | |
|---|----|--|----|------------------------|----|----|----|------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|---|----------------------------|-------------|
| | | | | | | | | | Applicants: Takashi KIMURA et al. | | | | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary) | | | | | | | | | Filing Date: Herewith | | Group Art Unit: | | |
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